



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was irregular, but overall steady at best. Demand covered the full range, but was mostly moderate at best. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to easily handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light and usually limited to regular commitments. Breast items were at least adequate to ample and discounted considerably to help move. Dark meat was available, and wings were in good balance to close, often tight for larger cuts. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 to 68.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.25 cents last year on October 9, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	206.00
BREASTS - B/S	185.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	91.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.00
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	88.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was light to fair, best for ads. Food service was fair to moderate with fast food best. Supplies were more than sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were balanced to tight and moving well. Breast items were adequate to ample and slow to clear, even at lower levels. Dark meat was well balanced to close with good movement, aided by export business. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained seasonally light and unaggressive during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was lackluster. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were ample and discounted. Tenderloins were fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were sufficient and wings were clearing well.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer market tone was about steady, undertone barely steady too weak. Offerings were fully sufficient with buyers generally satisfied through regular commitments. Demand was into all sectors was very irregular and covered the full range. Floor stocks were in balance to ample. Weights were in a desirable range. Trading on parts was cautious for the most part with buyers taking a wait and see attitude and ordering for immediate needs only. Wings were showing a good call and available on regular sizes, tight on large; breast items continue slow to clear and discounted and dark meat cuts were sufficient for trade needs. The market tone was steady to firm on large wings, barely steady to weak on breast items and steady on the balance of parts.

WESTERN The market was steady at best. Offerings fully adequate to ample. Retailer demand just fair. Floor stocks adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 10/04/03	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	192,871	193,083	0
CHICKS PLACED	159,130	155,770	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 193 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 4, 2003. This was down slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 159 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 4, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 4, 2003 were 6.71 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 15-Nov-03 is estimated at 148.4 million head. This compares to 151.3 million head the previous week and to 151.3 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 156.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 53.01 cents per pound.

OCTOBER 07, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

OCTOBER 08, 2003

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE				(000)	RANGE		
BREAST - B/S	641	143.00-230.00	144-147	146.13	BREAST - B/S	711	138.00-230.00	139-143	140.99
TENDERLOINS	150	165.00-217.00	165-168	175.03	TENDERLOINS	140	160.00-217.00	160-165	172.03
BREAST - LINE RUN	125	84.00-96.00	87-89	88.92	BREAST - LINE RUN	110	84.00-96.00	86-88	88.64
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				LEGS	113	32.00-53.00	33-35	35.61
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	383	25.00-30.00	26	26.31	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	636	25.00-30.00	26-27	26.50
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,360	27.00-33.00	29-30	29.93	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	938	27.50-33.00	29-30	30.00
WINGS (WHOLE)	110	78.00-82.00	-	79.73	WINGS (WHOLE)	85	78.00-82.00	-	79.65
WINGS (CUT)	438	85.00-102.00	-	92.23	WINGS (CUT)	693	85.00-102.00	-	94.11
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	115	87.00-96.00	-	90.13	B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

***** F.O.B. DOCK. *****

RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE		RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE		5-DAY AVERAGE	
49.00 - 53.50		51.06		46.50 - 52.00		49.16		50.67	

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was very cautious and selective during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were ample and available at sharp discounts, subsequently, dealers were attempting to move current inventories in light of declining values. Tenderloins were readily available. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings ranged balanced to adequate. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was weak on breast items and tenderloins; about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. OCTOBER 07, 2003

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*					TRADING*			
BREAST - B/S	165-170		162.17	672,471	BREAST - B/S	165		164.70	281,440
TENDERLOINS	155-160		157.04	159,250	TENDERLOINS	155		167.34	50,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79		86.19	208,010	BREAST - WITH RIBS	77-78		85.92	241,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	78		80.39	112,880	BREAST - LINE RUN	77		81.36	151,640
LEGS	38-39		37.50	288,000	LEGS	38-39		38.08	261,360
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29		28.62	676,190	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29		28.64	311,188
DRUMSTICKS	34-35		39.29	150,170	DRUMSTICKS	34-35		40.54	96,200
THIGHS	28-29		37.04	90,720	THIGHS	28-29		38.82	61,120
B/S THIGHS	84-85		85.74	88,550	B/S THIGHS	84-85		89.53	55,100
WINGS (WHOLE)	76-77		84.04	135,550	WINGS (WHOLE)	76-77		86.25	96,960
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.06	39,840	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.04	32,800
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		36.90	13,035	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		37.80	14,280
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55		59.57	30,180	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55		59.61	26,120

***** INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). *****

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	10/08	10/07	10/06	10/03	10/06	10/03	10/01	09/29
ALA	4,045	4,076	4,026	4,413	5.36	5.12	3,999	5.33
ARK	5,158	5,401	5,343	5,528	5.18	5.01	5,224	5.05
DELMARVA	2,365	2,346	2,297	2,188	5.55	5.47	2,310	5.49
KY-LA-TN	1,997	1,990	1,988	1,838	4.95	4.93	1,977	4.94
MISS	2,880	3,061	2,998	2,832	5.51	5.46	2,945	5.33
NC	2,335	2,326	2,254	2,560	6.17	5.16	2,125	6.07
TEXAS	2,464	2,427	2,490	2,452	5.18	5.10	2,521	5.13
TOTAL	21,244	21,627	21,396	21,811	5.38	5.16	21,101	5.29
MON-WED 64,501(A)							64,238(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10/8 is estimated to be 31,783,000 up 0.4percent from a week ago and up 1.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,664,000; last year 31,177,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE	
FRESH FRYERS		92-98	
ROASTERS 4# & UP		80-95	
HENS UNDER 5#		-	
HENS OVER 5#		60-63	
DUCKS		-	
RABBITS-WHOLE		-	
RABBITS-CUT UP		-	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	100
	DRY PACK	101-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	89-105
	DRY PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 11-OCT-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	10/11/03 (1)	10/04/03
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	165,389 (2)	162,670
LT HENS	1,376	1,453
HVY HENS	1,493	1,497
CHECK TOTAL	168,258	165,620

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 11-Oct-03 is 158.6 million head compared to 160.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 165.7 million head or 7.1 million more than estimated available. For week of 18-Oct-03 the estimated available is 158.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
LBS		LBS	
AM 10/06/03	206,468		48,272
AM 09/01/03	221,358		58,470
CHG	-14,890		-10,198
PCT CHG	-7		-17

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	10/06/03	9/29/03	10/07/02	10/06/03	9/29/03	10/07/02
PACIFIC						
COAST	15,636	15,642	17,583	4,734	4,802	6,683
LOS						
ANGELES	451	447	1,470	2,358	2,420	4,208

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 2003

HENS	RANGE	
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-65
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	64-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 10/07/03

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.05	.60	.26	HEAVY FOWL ea.	5.00	6.00
LIGHT FOWL lb.	.05	.10	.09	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.50	.90	.63	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	.25	7.00
BROILERS lb.	.45	.60	.52	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.50
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	6.25
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	3.00
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.00	.79	ROOSTERS ea.	2.00	4.25
GEESE lb.	.30	.80	.60	GEESE ea.	-	10.25
TURKEYS lb.	.50	.80	.59	TURKEYS ea.	-	5.00
DUCKS lb.	.30	1.35	.68	DUCKS ea.	3.00	6.25
RABBITS lb.	.40	1.05	.66	RABBITS ea.	2.75	3.25
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	3.25
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	3.00	7.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	4.00	5.00
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	175					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending October 3, 2003

	Whole		Legs	Necks,Back	Livers/	Hens
	Chickens	Breasts	w/ Thighs	&Wings	Gizzards	
RAYON						
Low	38.38	105.04	60.60	12.12	12.12	40.40
High	44.44	113.12	68.68	16.16	16.16	40.40
Mostly	40.40	113.12	68.68	12.12	12.12	40.40

SAN JUAN

Low	38.38	105.04	60.60	8.08	8.08	40.40
High	44.44	113.12	64.64	16.16	16.16	40.40
Mostly	40.40	105.04	60.60	12.12	12.12	40.40

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	38.38	105.04	60.60	12.12	8.08	40.40
High	44.44	113.12	64.64	16.16	12.12	40.40
Mostly	40.40	105.04	64.64	12.12	12.12	40.40

BECERRA

Low	38.38	105.04	60.60	12.12	12.12	40.40
High	44.44	113.12	68.68	16.16	16.16	40.40
Mostly	40.40	113.12	68.68	12.12	12.12	40.40

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to good and was sufficient in keeping the bulk of seller offerings cleared satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights were in the full range of light to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts and tenders remained readily available and slow to clear. Boneless/skinless breasts were at least adequate but in better balance overall. Wings were in good balance to well cleared. Leg quarters were usually adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	56-74
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	63.18
NO. OF BOXES	8,525

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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